

**A BTE/CIC AUDITORY DEVICE
AND MODULAR CONNECTOR SYSTEM THEREFOR**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An inventive earpiece auditory device is provided. In one embodiment, the earpiece auditory device includes a behind-the-ear component, the behind-the-ear component preferably being shaped to fit behind an ear of a user. In some embodiments, the behind-the-ear component includes a module that includes processing circuitry. In a preferred embodiment, the earpiece auditory device also includes a completely-in-canal component, the completely-in-canal component preferably being shaped to fit into the ear canal of the user in such a manner as to touch the bony portion of the ear canal of the user. In some embodiments, the completely-in-canal component includes an ear mold. Moreover, in one embodiment, the earpiece auditory device includes a connector physically coupling the behind-the-ear component to the completely-in-canal component. In a preferred embodiment, the connector includes at least one end detachably coupled to the behind-the-ear component or the completely-in-canal component.

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